



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:00 a.m. EST (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Friday - January 25, 2002

- ***In the West***, this morning's low temperatures were near 30 degrees F in ***California's San Joaquin Valley***, where cold-weather concerns are diminishing as a storm system approaches. Farther north, heavy precipitation is overspreading the ***Pacific Northwest***, while snow is developing in the ***northern Rockies***.
- ***On the Plains***, warm, breezy weather continues to compromise the hardiness of the winter wheat crop, which remains exposed to potential temperature extremes.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, a minimal snow cover and mild, dry conditions are maintaining low levels of livestock stress and promoting outdoor activities.
- ***In the South***, dry weather is returning to the ***Delta***, where recent heavy rainfall brought renewed saturation to winter wheat fields. Meanwhile, drought-easing showers are diminishing from the ***southern Appalachians to the southern Atlantic Coast***.

Outlook: Some of the coldest air of the season will overspread the ***Plains*** during the next several days, preceded and accompanied by little or no snowfall. By early next week, temperatures below -20 degrees F are likely on the ***northern High Plains***, while temperatures near 0 degrees F are possible as far south as the ***central Plains***. Bitterly cold weather is not expected to reach the ***Deep South***, but cool, unsettled weather will persist in the ***Northwest***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for January 30 - February 3 calls for cold weather to prevail from the ***Plains westward*** and above-normal temperatures across the ***South and East***. An active storm track is forecast to produce widespread precipitation from ***California to the Great Lakes region***. Significant precipitation is also likely across the ***South***, especially from ***eastern Texas to the Carolinas***. In contrast, little or no precipitation is forecast in the ***northern Plains and Northwest***.

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